

REMARKS

Claims 10-12 and 24-26 remain in this application. As suggested by Examiner, Claims 10 and 24 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of their base claim(s) and any intervening claims. Claims 1-9, 13-23, and 27-29 have been canceled. Applicants respectfully traverse the drawing objections under 37 CFR 1.83(a) and claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102. Applicants, however, have made the above-shown amendments obviating such rejections in order to advance the prosecution of this case.

DRAWINGS – OBJECTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.83(a)

On page 2 of the Office Action mailed August 31, 2004, Examiner stated:

The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the “curved path having an increasing radius” of claim 3, the “chain links” of claim 6, and the “metallic material” of claim 9 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claims(s). No new matter should be entered.

Applicants respectfully traverse the objection to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a).

Such rejection, however, is obviated by the cancellation of Claims 3, 6, and 9.

In light of the above, Applicants respectfully request that Examiner withdraw the objection to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a).

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. 102

On page 4 of the Office Action mailed August 31, 2004, Examiner stated:

Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 23, 27, 28, 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wentworth USP 2,152,939. Wentworth discloses a similar device in fig. 3 comprising a(n): end roller (3), first conveyor (1), second conveyor (35), regarding claim 7 & 21, see C2/L1.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-5, 7, 9, 13-19, 21, 23, and 27-29. Such rejection, however, is obviated by the cancellation of Claims 1-9, 13-23, and 27-29.

On page 4 of the Office Action mailed August 31, 2004, Examiner stated:

Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Harmon USP 4,309,938. Harmon discloses a similar device in fig. 3 comprising a(n): end roller (3), first conveyor (1), second conveyor (35), regarding claim 7 & 21, see C2/L1.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-6, 8, 13-20, 22-23, and 27-29.

Such rejection, however, is obviated by the cancellation of Claims 1-9, 13-23, and 27-29.

CONCLUSION

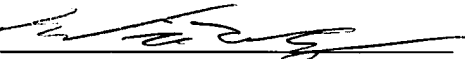
Applicants believe the remaining claims 10-12 and 24-26 are now in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that Examiner withdraw all rejections and/or objections with regard to the above-referenced claims in reliance on one or more of the grounds submitted by Applicants.

If there are any outstanding issues that Examiner feels may be resolved by way of a telephone conference, Examiner is cordially invited to contact William S. Wang at (972) 367-2001.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional payments that may be due or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0392.

Respectfully submitted,

CARSTENS & CAHOON, L.L.P.
P. O. Box 802334
Dallas, Texas 75380
972-367-2001
972-367-2002 Fax

By: 
William S. Wang
Registration No. 52,341